In the Claims

1-71 (canceled)

72 (currently amended). A method of using an agent which ~~influences~~ increases the partitioning of dietary lipids between the liver and peripheral tissues for use as a medicament to treat a condition in which it is desirable to increase the partitioning of dietary lipids to the liver, reducing the levels of free fatty acids in obese individuals, decreasing the body weight of obese individuals, or treating an obesity related condition selected from the group consisting of obesity-related atherosclerosis, obesity-related insulin resistance, obesity-related hypertension, microangiopathic lesions resulting from obesity-related Type II diabetes, ocular lesions caused by microangiopathy in obese individuals with Type II diabetes, and renal lesions caused by microangiopathy in obese individuals with Type II diabetes.

73 (canceled).

74 (previously presented). The method of Claim 72, wherein said compound comprises a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of C1q, AdipoQ, ApM1, Acrp 30, cerebellin, multimerin and fragments of any of these polypeptides.

75 (previously presented). The method of Claim 74, wherein said human polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of ApM1 and fragments of ApM1.

76-85 (canceled).

86 (new). The method of claim 74, wherein said fragment comprises SEQ ID NO:7.

87 (new). The method of claim 74, wherein said fragment comprises SEQ ID NO:8.

88 (new). The method of claim 74, wherein said fragment comprises SEQ ID NO:9.

89 (new). The method of claim 74, wherein said fragment comprises SEQ ID NO:10.

90 (new). The method of claim 74, wherein said fragment comprises SEQ ID NO:11.

91 (new). A method of increasing the partitioning of dietary lipids between the liver and peripheral tissues comprising the administration of an agent selected from the group consisting of C1q; AdipoQ; ApM1; Acrp30; cerebellin; multimerin; fragments of C1q, AdipoQ, ApM1, Acrp30, cerebellin, or multimerin; SEQ ID NO: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 or 14; and biologically active homolog of SEQ ID NO: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 or 14 having at least 80% homology to its respective sequence and the ability to increase partitioning of dietary lipids between the liver and peripheral tissues.

92 (new). The method of claim 91, wherein said agent comprises ApM1.

93 (new). The method of claim 91, wherein said agent comprises a fragment of ApM1.

94 (new). The method of claim 91, wherein said agent comprises a biologically active homolog of SEQ ID NO:7.

95 (new). The method of claim 91, wherein said agent comprises a biologically active homolog of SEQ ID NO:8.

96 (new). The method of claim 91, wherein said agent comprises a biologically active homolog of SEQ ID NO:9.

97 (new). The method of claim 91, wherein said agent comprises a biologically active homolog of SEQ ID NO:10.

98 (new). The method of claim 91, wherein said agent comprises a biologically active homolog of SEQ ID NO:11.

99 (new). The method of claim 91, wherein said agent comprises a biologically active homolog of SEQ ID NO:12.

100 (new). The method of claim 91, wherein said agent comprises a biologically active homolog of SEQ ID NO:13.

101 (new). The method of claim 91, wherein said agent comprises a biologically active homolog of SEQ ID NO:14.

102 (new). The method of claim 91, wherein said agent comprises SEQ ID NO:7.

103 (new). The method of claim 91, wherein said agent comprises SEQ ID NO:8.

104 (new). The method of claim 91, wherein said agent comprises SEQ ID NO:9.

105 (new). The method of claim 91, wherein said agent comprises SEQ ID NO:10.

106 (new). The method of claim 91, wherein said agent comprises SEQ ID NO:11.

107 (new). The method of claim 91, wherein said agent comprises SEQ ID NO:12.

108 (new). The method of claim 91, wherein said agent comprises SEQ ID NO:13.

109 (new). The method of claim 91, wherein said agent comprises SEQ ID NO:14.